
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 222 Session of 2022

INTRODUCED BY COOK, O'NEAL, RYAN, GILLEN, CAUSER, MALONEY, SILVIS, KAUFER, RADER, KAIL, JAMES, WARNER, MENTZER, SMITH, WENTLING, SANKEY, SCHNEE, SCHMITT, RAPP, ROAE, DAVANZO, ARMANINI, E. NELSON, KAUFFMAN, PICKETT, RIGBY, TOPPER, PENNYCUICK, B. MILLER, HELM, GREINER, MIHALEK, BOBACK AND MAJOR, JULY 18, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, JULY 18, 2022

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to establish an
2 advisory committee and provide a report to the House of
3 Representatives on preventing and countering inflation and
4 supply chain challenges in this Commonwealth.

5 WHEREAS, The high costs of energy and food are devastating
6 household budgets across this Commonwealth, including the
7 farmers who produce the food and the truckers who deliver it to
8 grocery store shelves; and

9 WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians are experiencing empty shelves of
10 essential goods; and

11 WHEREAS, In May 2022, prices rose by 8.6% year-over-year,
12 increasing over the previous month's 8.3% year-over-year
13 increase; and

14 WHEREAS, Food prices in May 2022 were 10.1% greater than
15 prices in May 2021; and

16 WHEREAS, Energy prices went up 34.6% in May 2022, the eighth
17 month in a row above 25%; and

1 WHEREAS, Retail prices for gasoline have doubled since
2 January 2021; and

3 WHEREAS, Energy, tax and regulatory policies play a role in
4 driving up food, gas and electric prices; and

5 WHEREAS, Government policies that disincentivize work and
6 regulations that discourage energy development, increase costs
7 to consumers and hinder the supply chain should be explored for
8 their impact and possible revision or repeal; and

9 WHEREAS, There are 3.2 million fewer people in the labor
10 force today than before the COVID-19 pandemic; and

11 WHEREAS, Fifty-one percent of employers are reporting job
12 openings they cannot fill; and

13 WHEREAS, Shortages of skilled and unskilled labor in
14 manufacturing and distribution continue to impact output and
15 capacity; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the Joint
17 State Government Commission to establish an advisory committee
18 and provide a report to the House of Representatives on
19 preventing and countering inflation and supply chain challenges
20 in this Commonwealth; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission appoint
22 members of the advisory committee consisting of:

23 (1) a representative from a Statewide agriculture
24 organization;

25 (2) a representative from a Statewide trucking
26 organization;

27 (3) a representative from a Statewide manufacturing
28 organization;

29 (4) a representative from a Statewide small business
30 organization;

1 (5) a representative from a Statewide food merchants
2 association;

3 (6) a representative from a Statewide motor fuel or
4 petroleum association;

5 (7) a representative from a Statewide energy producer
6 association;

7 (8) a representative from a Statewide natural gas
8 association; and

9 (9) a representative from a Statewide career and
10 technical education association; and

11 (10) a representative from a statewide workforce
12 development association; and

13 (11) a representative from Pennsylvania's maritime
14 shipping industry;

15 and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission, working
17 with the advisory committee, conduct a comprehensive review and
18 analysis of laws, regulations, policies and procedures of this
19 Commonwealth and other states regarding best policies and
20 practices for preventing and countering inflation and supply
21 chain challenges; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the review and analysis consist of the
23 following:

24 (1) supply chain challenges and recommendations for
25 regulatory relief or repeal to alleviate supply chain
26 constraints;

27 (2) cost-drivers of consumer goods, fuel, energy and
28 essential items, such as food and energy, and recommendations
29 for regulatory relief or repeal for bringing costs down;

30 (3) workforce challenges impacting the supply chain and

1 recommendations to meet workforce demands;

2 (4) recommendations to increase the supply and improve
3 the delivery of this Commonwealth's natural energy resources
4 to consumers; and

5 (5) any other regulatory or policy changes recommended
6 by the advisory committee relating to preventing and
7 countering inflation and supply chain challenges;

8 and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the advisory committee meet a minimum of four
10 times; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission issue a
12 report of the advisory committee's findings and recommendations
13 to the House of Representatives no later than six months from
14 the adoption of this resolution.